

230 Joyful Is the Dark

Capo 1: (C) (F) (Dm7) (G) (C)
 D^b G^b E^bm7 A^b D^b

1 Joy - ful is the dark, ho - ly, hid - den God,
 2 Joy - ful is the dark Spir - it of the deep,
 3 Joy - ful is the dark, shad - owed sta - ble floor;
 4 Joy - ful is the dark cool - ness of the tomb,
 5 Joy - ful is the dark depth of love di - vine,

(Dm) (Dm7) (Em) (Gsus) (G)
 E^bm E^bm7 Fm A^bsus A^b

roll - ing cloud of night be - yond all nam - ing:
 wing - ing wild - ly o'er the world's cre - a - tion,
 an - gels flick - er, God on earth con - fess - ing,
 wait - ing for the won - der of the morn - ing;
 roar - ing, loom - ing thun - der - cloud of glo - ry,

(Dm) (C) (F) (Dm) (G) (C)
 E^bm D^b G^b E^bm A^b D^b

maj - es - ty in dark - ness, en - er - gy of love,
 silk - en sheen of mid - night plum - age black and bright,
 as with ex - ul - ta - tion, Mar - y, giv - ing birth,
 nev - er was that mid - night touched by dread and gloom:
 ho - ly, haunt - ing beau - ty, liv - ing, lov - ing God.

(Dm) (Em7) (Dm) (Gsus) (G) (C)
 E^bm Fm7 E^bm A^bsus A^b D^b

Word - in - flesh, the mys - ter - y pro - claim - ing.
 swoop - ing with the beau - ty of a ra - ven.
 hails the in - fant cry of need and bless - ing.
 dark - ness was the cra - dle of the dawn - ing.
 Hal - le - lu - jah! Sing and tell the sto - ry!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text opens each stanza with a line inspired by the phrase "joyful darkness far beyond our seeing," which the author used in another text about the same time (see no. 760). Its numerous biblical images include Genesis 1:2, Exodus 20:18-21, 1 Kings 8:10-13, and Psalm 18:8-12.